



Red Light Cameras Do Affect Driver Behavior

The ultimate goal of the City of Houston's red light camera traffic safety program is to change driver behavior. Every driver makes a decision when approaching an intersection where the light has just turned to red. Impatient drivers often choose to continue through the intersection, ignoring the law and putting lives at risk.

- From 1994-2005, red light running violations decreased 73% in **New York City**.¹
- Accidents are down 11% in the intersections with red light cameras in **Arnold, Missouri** according to Police Chief Robert Shockey. At an intersection located in front of a school, accidents are down 50%.
- During the first year of operation of the red light camera enforcement safety program in **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**, red light violations decreased 70% and 88% at two of the intersections where cameras are operating according to State House Speaker John M. Perzel (R-172).
- Significant citywide crash reductions have followed the introduction of red light cameras in **Oxnard, California**: 7% overall crash reduction; 29% reduction in injury-related crashes; 32% reduction in front-into-side crashes; 68% reduction in front-into-side crashes involving injury.²
- In **Fairfax, Virginia** after one year of camera enforcement, violations were reduced by about 40%. Additionally, 84% of its residents supported the use of red light cameras.²
- **Garden Grove, California** found a 56% reduction in right-of-way violation accidents.²
- **Charlotte, North Carolina** reported the following findings based on a before and after study done at 17 intersections: 37% decrease in angle crashes at intersections with cameras; 60% decrease in angle crashes at approaches with cameras; all crash types reduced by 19%; crash severity reduced 16%.²
- Red light running accidents decreased 30% in the year after red light cameras were installed in **Baltimore County, Maryland** compared to the prior year.²
- Red light running in **Savannah, Georgia** has decreased by 45% since installing a red light camera.²



Source:

¹ New York City, Department of Transportation data.

² "Red light Cameras: A Proven Method to Save Lives," National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running, www.stoppedlightrunning.com/html/redlight.htm.